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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1912.

Billingsgate, Not Politics.

In one of his recent speeches in the West, Gov. Johnson of California, the Bull Moose candidate for Vice President, made this disgraceful utterance:

Do not for a minute consider President Taft in this race. He is a negligible quantity. It is with shame, as an American citizen, that I say that today the most humiliating character in all American history is the President.

The Herald never has been in favor of muckraking and mudslinging. Much of what the chief Bull Moose and his flock have perpetrated in this direction has been ignored in these columns because it is not only un-American, but hardly fit for reproduction in a self-respecting journal, to be dishd up to self-respecting, fair-minded readers.

But there is another side to such vituperative attacks. If the Roosevelt party leaders really believe that this sort of thing will lead to victory, or get them a satisfactory number of votes, even in the West, they have another guess coming.

Mr. Taft, in the mind of the Bull Moose, and perhaps others, may have erred in judgment (he is but human), but most emphatically he is not "the most humiliating character in all American history," an epithet which we believe rather fits the man who uttered these words. Let us compare this and similar talk by Roosevelt with what he himself, long after his return from Africa, as chairman of the New York Republican State Convention, had to say:

The great work that had been done, and its beneficence and far-reaching importance, measured the credit which is rightly due to Congress and to our able, upright and distinguished President, William Howard Taft.

It is the old, old story as to "whose ox is gored." We quote what the Philadelphia Public Ledger, an ultra-conservative paper that weighs every word it writes, and rarely, if ever, resorts to invective, said editorially upon the Hiram Johnson episode:

That thousands heard him with enthusiasm and applauded his inordinate exhibition of himself as a lying hypocrite, churlish ingrate, and an assassin of character is as much to their shame as the speech itself was to Gov. Johnson's lasting infamy. The most humiliating character in all American history is Gov. Hiram Johnson of California.

Mr. Taft may be deficient in certain personal qualities that are supposed to be necessary to be a party leader, but nevertheless, he will be remembered with pride after Johnson is forgotten, and his reputation also will outlast that of his former friend, who even now is trying to break down the very safeguards of our republic in order to "get square" with the man who refused to vacate the White House at his "order."

Lesson Taught in Blood.

The "unwritten law" is responsible for another chapter in a domestic tragedy that has been the cause of the murder of a father and his son—Capt. A. C. Boyce and Al Boyce—by John Beal Snead. And they were former friends.

It is the same old story, with the same disgraceful end of the second chapter. What the final chapter will be cannot be foretold.

Starting in a most commonplace manner of friendly meetings at each other's homes, the snake appeared to them as it did in the Garden of Eden. Mrs. Snead, young, and reported to be beautiful, ate the apple with A. C. Boyce, Jr., and the demon of jealousy was born. Forgetful of their own honor, ignoring the laws of society, the mother of two innocent children left her home with the son of a man who later on was killed because of that relationship.

The slaying of father and son by an outraged husband puts an end to their troubles. The two children that are left are the ones to be pitied. Their mother guilty of a grave sin, their father responsible for two deaths, a dark cloud hangs over their future.

Now that it is too late, the mother will undoubtedly repent in sackcloth and ashes. The father will be upheld by some and condemned by others, yet it is probable he will seek justification in his own conscience that he has done

nothing more than any right-thinking man should do in protecting the sanctity of his own home. This question can be safely left for the courts to decide.

There is a terrible lesson taught by the tragedy, one that should sear deep the hearts and consciences of those who are playing with fire. The purity of home is sacred, and must be kept so. It is the duty of both sexes to preserve it. The man of woman that takes the first step off the recognized track is taking the first step toward perdition.

Politics in the Schoolhouse.

The Social Center Association of America has written to the chairman of the national committee of the three leading parties, suggesting that they make use of the public schoolhouses of our large cities for the coming election with the consent of the Boards of Education, instead of undertaking establishments or barber shops and the like, for balloting.

This use of the schoolhouse on election day, however, is only a small part of the political service to which the society would plan to devote these buildings. It intends to make them the centers of political presentation and debate open to all parties under the supervision and direction of a "nonpartisan group," whose secretary, it is proposed, should be the school principal of the political district.

The advantages claimed for such a plan are that they would make the schoolhouses, as public buildings, more serviceable to the people, to whom after all, they belong. Discussions, it is contended, would be more candid and there would be less temptation for corrupt practices. Whether the character of the buildings would have a calming and restraining effect upon the participants may be questioned. But they would act as a stimulus toward awakening a large measure of political interest in those who, under present conditions, prefer to stay away from political debates, and to this end would be welcome.

Making the schoolhouses polling places would have the merit of an assured square deal, but it would interfere with their regular use, for one day at least.

Once More the Age Limit.

We remember well the controversy that raged at the time the age limit at the Chicago Young Women's Christian Association building for girl boarders or lodgers had been fixed at thirty. Recently it was decided to reduce the limit to twenty-five years, because large numbers of women under that age were being kept out of the home by their sisters who had reached the spinsterhood period. As a result twenty-one young women past twenty-five were obliged to vacate.

This will no doubt create a lot of talk in the press, though we believe that the management could hardly do otherwise. A girl of thirty has seen more of the world than her sister of twenty or twenty-five, and is, therefore, better able to take care of herself than those who just have left the parental roof to go to the city to seek employment.

No doubt there are many women of thirty whose religious training would lead them to prefer the calm, refined atmosphere of the home, but as the Chicago building is not large enough to house these also, and as they are supposed to have reached the age of discretion, they will have to do what they did before the home was built, shift for themselves.

Cotton Still King.

According to the official bulletin issued last week by the government 729,926 bales of cotton were ginned prior to September 1 of this year. This is almost as large a total as the record ginnings before that date of last year, which heralded the largest crop ever grown. In 1911 771,207 bales were ginned during the pre-September period, out of a crop of more than 16,000,000 bales produced! But if the estimate of the secretary of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange goes for anything, this year's crop will top last year's record total by 1,250,000 bales at least.

The really important growth of the cotton industry has occurred in the last thirty-five years. Before 1879 the production, though it fluctuated considerably, remained pretty nearly at one level. But then began its rapid and steady rise, until, in 1894, for the first time it reached and passed the 100,000,000-bale mark.

Increased crops have been due partly to improved methods of cultivation, but mainly to the increase of acreage, especially in Texas. But this increase would have been much larger had the South confined itself as exclusively to the culture of cotton as it did before the war. Millions of acres have been given over to the raising of other products, on the whole, with profitable and enlarging industrial results.

True, cotton is still king in the United States, but it may be observed that in other countries its culture is increasing more rapidly than here. Therefore, if we wish to retain our lead we must use increasing efforts. Almost limitless areas in Africa are to be cultivated by the European powers that control them by labor that is not only cheap, but efficient, because born to the climate.

Why blame the Illinois Liquor Dealers' Association for opposing the "pitcher" trade. There is a lot more profit in selling it in high-collar glasses or steins.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

ALWAYS HAPPENS.

Alone at home, you mop your dome,
Disband your sticky things.
To take a bath, when, to your wrath,
The peaky door bell rings.
Ting-a-ling!
Ting-a-ling!
Ting-a-ling!
Ker-blanc!

'Twas ever thus! This awful fuss
Of clanging gongs you hate.
And you'll agree that bell must be
Rung by the hand of Fate.
Ting-a-ling!
Ting-a-ling!
Ting-a-ling!
Ker-blanc!

Uncle Pennywise Says:

A politician is always ready to discuss questions; but he seldom has an answer for any of our troubles.

A Trifle Seemly.

"Bleed dance with abandon," remarked the advance agent for the Baltimore act. "Then no permit in this town," retorted the chief of police. "We require more covering than that."

September 16 in History.

September 16, 1370—Mrs. Richard the Lion-Hearted darts her husband's shenron socks with barbed wire.
September 16, 1788—Queen Elizabeth takes a prize at the county fair with her crabapple jelly.

Way of Women.

"That woman next door is a cat."
"How now?"
"Here I spend \$600 for a seaside trip, and she pretends she didn't know I was away."

Nibble at It.

You may enjoy your corn on cob,
But let discretion guide your course.
Be dainty with the eating job,
And don't approach it like a horse.

Count of Last Resort.

"Going to that stag dinner to-night?"
"Don't know as yet. My wife said I couldn't. I took an appeal to her mother, who has the matter under consideration now."

Where It Grows.

"That's nothing like the roast beef of old England," declared the man in the monocle.
"I can go ball for that, old chap," responded the Kansas City man. "We ship a good bit of it out of Kansas City."

How About It?

"It's a free and equal country, of course."
"Well?"
"But we all swell up when we get a brief nod from a millionaire."

PERTINENT AND IMPERTINENT.

From the St. Louis Republic.
An oil well that gushes a barrel a minute has been discovered near Tulsa. We reiterate our prediction that John D. will yet be a billionaire, and regardless, you understand, as to who owns that oil well.

From the Indianapolis News.

Beef is selling for 11 cents a pound on the hoof in Chicago, but let us not be downhearted—turnips will soon be ripe.

From the Albany Journal.

But what profit there mere man by the removal of the hat of the woman who sits in front of him in the theater, when her coiffure rises even to the altitude of the hat?

From the New York World.

Prohibiting aliens from owning newspapers, as proposed at the hearing on the question of amending the present ordinance, would be straining our boasted hospitality to exiles from other lands pretty fine.

From the Toledo Capital.

We gather from our casual survey of the society columns, that another Toplek man has been run down and that preparations for dragging him up a church aisle are under way.

From the Toledo Blade.

Man is weak. That is why he invests in a cantaloupe when he knows the chances are ten to one against him.

From the Boston Traveller.

The postal savings system gets additional advertising from Director Weed's plea before the Bankers' Convention in Detroit. He wants to get the \$300 restriction taken off. But if the people refuse to use the banks for small sums will they be more attracted by an enlargement of the limit?

From the Providence Journal.

A stroke of lightning at the New York Zoo instantly destroyed 1,000 rats and 500 mice—a hint to those warring on the bubonic plague by the destruction of rodents.

From the Philadelphia Telegraph.

The Society of American Indians, representing 35,000 red men, will convene in Columbus next month. Then, if ever, the shades of Little Turtle and Tecumseh should return to tell the tale of Fallen Timbers and Tippecanoe.

From the Boston Herald.

Canada gets 175,000 Americans this year. In a century at that rate she will have us all.

FUNNYBIRDS.

Last Rites for Victim of Automobile Accident in Alexandria.

The body of A. J. Groves, of 308 Ninth Street Northwest, who died at Casualty Hospital Saturday night as the result of injuries received in an automobile accident Friday, will be taken to Alexandria, his former home, for interment this afternoon. A short service will be held at the Washington residence.

Mr. Groves was forty-one years old and a native of Alexandria, Va., where he lived until six years ago. He had been in the automobile business ten years.

Besides his wife, four children survive him. They are Harry, aged eighteen; Gordon, aged seventeen; Frank, aged eleven, and Alice, aged six years.

BODY FOUND IN CANAL.

Identified as that of Missing Colored Woman.

While fishing in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal about half a mile west of the Aqueduct Bridge yesterday, Henry Morgan, colored, of 134 Twenty-ninth Street Northwest, pulled to the surface the body of a colored woman.

At the morgue the body was identified as that of Annie Lewis, thirty-four years old, of 308 Twenty-seventh Street Northwest. While the police believe the woman accidentally fell into the canal shortly after she disappeared from her home Saturday night the body will be examined to-day by Deputy Coroner White to ascertain whether death was due to violence.

A cursory examination by Assistant Morguekeeper Rundle revealed no marks and drowning is held as the cause of death.

"Ha, ha! That is funny! Step-mother says to keep away from the water or we might get our feet wet."

WILSON TO DROP NEW YORK CASE

Will Not Discuss Situation Further for Present—Arrives in Harrisburg.

GIVES COUSIN POINTERS ON UNIVERSITY ETHICS

Senator Gore Greeted Candidate from Bear Platform of Limited in Railroad Yards.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 15.—Gov. Wilson has declined to enter into any further discussion of the New York State situation for the present. The Governor was asked if he intended making any speeches in New York with regard to the gubernatorial situation, or if he would have anything to say on the subject.

"No," was the reply; "not at present."

The Governor said "not at present" rather significantly, and it is thought probable that he will make an important statement should it develop that Tammany Leader Murphy intends to force the renomination of Gov. Dix, despite what Gov. Wilson has had to say regarding the advisability of putting up a Progressive candidate. The Governor will not, of course, have the time to devote to making speeches on the subject. He is booked solidly on trips about the country right up to the time of the New York State convention.

Gives Cousin Pointers.

Gov. Wilson's special car, Magnet, left New York at 1 o'clock this afternoon attached to the regular Chicago express. The Governor got aboard at Trenton. He was accompanied to the train by his young cousin, Pittsfield, MacMaster Woodrow, twenty-one years old, who came from South Carolina a few days ago to enter Princeton University as a freshman. Young Fitz called on the Governor to "get a little tip from Wilson" on the course he should pursue at Princeton. The Governor having been in a position to give him the right information, Young Woodrow went away primed for the hazards.

Gov. Wilson will make his most important speech at Columbus, on Friday. When asked the theme of this speech he said:

"I shall discuss the abandoned issues of the campaign. You may have noticed that Taft and Roosevelt incessantly have abandoned the tariff and the trusts, probably because they have no arguable grounds."

To Visit Sioux Falls.

The Governor has not decided what he will discuss in his other speeches.

He has added Sioux Falls, S. Dak., to the present trip. The Democrats of the State, when they learned the candidate was to visit Sioux City, Iowa, insisted that he honor them with his presence. The objection of inconvenient railroad connections was advanced, and the Sioux Falls folks promptly arranged for a special engine to haul the private car from their town to St. Paul, the next stop.

Gov. Wilson is enjoying the trip. His car has practically all the comforts of home, save golf links.

"My greatest pleasure is in meeting the people who come to our meetings," he said. "It is worth traveling long distances to meet them."

At 7:30 o'clock to-night, as Gov. Wilson's special car was standing in the dark railroad yard at Harrisburg, he was told that some one was calling him from the observation end of the eighteen-hour train which had pulled into the yard and was standing fifty yards away.

Sees Senator Gore.

Gov. Wilson went to the back platform of his car, and to his surprise saw Senator Thomas P. Gore, of his campaign committee, waving his hand. It was raining heavily, and the Governor could hardly recognize the blind Senator.

"Glad to see you, Senator," said the Governor.

"Glad to see you, Governor," said the blind Senator grimly.

"What time did you leave New York?" asked the Governor.

"About 4 o'clock, and we arrive in Chicago at 9 in the morning. What time do you reach there?"

At 5 to-morrow afternoon," said the Governor with a laugh. "We are carrying heavy freight."

Senator Gore called a hearty good-by and went inside. Gov. Wilson watched him until he had disappeared, and then returned into his own car.

The railroad company's rules prevent private cars from being attached to the fast trains. The Governor, therefore, is traveling on one of the slowest "express" trains.

One Advantage.

One advantage of indulging in day dreams is that your pipe never goes out.

A Clench.

Tommy's mamma—Why aren't you a good boy like Willie Blymes?"

Tommy—Huh! It's easy enough for him to be good. He's sick most of the time.

CAPITAL AT CORNERS

Washington Lawyer Proposes to Lobby Through Congress Bill for More Pay.

WANTS DIVISION OF INCREASE

The greatest indignation has been aroused among army officers at the War Department by the activities of a Washington attorney, who has been brought to their attention recently.

Copies of letters sent out by this lawyer have been laid before the legal officers of the War Department, in which, it is understood, the attorney offers his services to enlisted men of the army as a lobbyist on condition that he receive a portion of their pay. It is understood that his letter has been sent to all the enlisted men of the army. With the letters a power of attorney is inclosed, to be filled out by the soldier, authorizing the attorney to appeal to Congress for higher pay. The soldier is also asked to agree to reward the attorney to the amount of half of the first year's increase of pay. A special proposition is being made to enlisted men on the retired list, it is stated. The attorney intimates that he is in a position to get through Congress, still advancing enlisted men of the army one grade upon retirement from active service, and solicits the support of the soldiers on the same basis as in his other proposition, that is, half of the first year's increase in pay.

While the War Department does not propose to take any action against the attorney in question, it will not permit the enlisted men to organize to support a lobby in Washington. There is already in force a regulation covering just such activities as the Washington attorney is now proposing. It is also believed that much harm may be done, and enlisted men of the service subjected to real loss through the representations of this attorney, who claims to be in a position effectively to influence legislation in Congress. The regulation covering such efforts by men in the military service is as follows: "Efforts to influence legislation affecting the army, or to procure personal favor or consideration, should never be made except through regular military channels; the adoption of any other method by any officer or enlisted man will be noted in the military record of those concerned."

MERGER REPORT IS CONFIRMED

Milton E. Ailes States Plan for Uniting Public Utilities in District Has Been Adopted.

Milton E. Ailes, a director of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, and a member of its executive committee, yesterday confirmed the statement that a big holding and operating company has been formed to take over the public utilities corporations of Washington. He declared that the plan had been no very close secret among financial people for some time, and that there was no objection in trying to conceal the facts of divert attention from the ultimate purpose of the prospective corporation and its intentions.

According to Mr. Ailes the proposition had its origin in the rehabilitated properties of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, and if it reaches complete development will be due to the wisdom and enterprise of the group of local capitalists who now control the destinies of the street railway and electric properties. He said that in time the gas companies and the Capital Traction Company will be given opportunity to enter the larger common on a basis equitable to their interests, and that both will be greatly benefited by so doing.

Mr. Ailes said in part:

"This scheme will not go through unless it is clean, clear, and all right through and through. Mr. King has the ultimate say in the matter in so far as his corporation is concerned."

He will be the one holding for the stocks of the other corporations.

"The proposed corporation which will be organized when the matter is ripe will then take the gas companies and the Capital Traction Company, the necessary facilities for getting together, involving enormous savings through the handling of all utilities by one corporation."

"We will have no trouble at all getting the financial backing necessary to acquire the securities of other corporations on a fair valuation basis."

"The Washington Railway and Electric Company under President King's management has made many important changes, has built for the future, and is not at all hampered by its present position. He has demonstrated that the system has a bright future, even though it is but a matter of a few years since the rehabilitation of the property was undertaken. We have absorbed numerous smaller companies, with lines in outlying districts that have been slow in coming to the point where they were profitable."

GROVES FUNERAL TO-DAY.

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COWARDS.

By GEORGE FITCH,
Author of "At Good Old Slaves."

A coward is a man who fears something you aren't afraid of. All men are cowards, but some make a specialty of it. A man can be afraid of a few things comfortably, but when he begins to collect fears as a dog does fleas, he is not honoring the trousers he insists on occupying.

Some men are so brave that they only fear death and taxes; and some scoff even at death.

Some men are not afraid of lions and will willingly go into a cage and twist the tail of the biggest lion there—except on Friday.

Friday produces more cowards than anything except business. Many a man will jump off an office building with a red umbrella for a parachute on Thursday, but if asked to get into a parlor car and ride a few miles on Friday will turn pale and refuse to risk his life.

Men who are afraid of their wives are regarded with scorn by men who are afraid of their stenographers. Men who are afraid of babies are cowards, to men who would yell for help if attacked by a duck in a lonely swamp. Men who are afraid of the swift, soporific swat are feared by pugilists who regard nosebleeds as a recreation, but would shriek with terror if compelled to face a steady job.

The world suffers severely from cowards. Nothing is more disastrous than the scare-crowd statesman who sits shivering on the fence like a sick kitten

treed by a bulldog and lets the voter battle for reform by himself.

On the other hand, the man who is such a coward that he is afraid of his reputation is a great blessing to any community. Wherever a man treats his reputation as carefully as he does his liver he can generally be used to advantage by the people in a position of trust.

"EXCEPT ON FRIDAY."

We are all cowards to some extent, but if we confine our cowardice to the fear of doing wrong, we will live happily and fill an honored tomb some day in a highly successful manner.

(Copyright, 1912, by George Matthew Adams.)

Do Oysters Suffer Pain?
"They Do," Says Dr. Wiley

Pure Food Expert Says Eating Them from the Half Shell While They Are Still Living Is Almost Barbaric.

"Oysters suffer untold agony when eaten from the half shell," said Dr. Harvey W. Wiley yesterday, in a statement given out on the correct way to eat oysters. "Ninety per cent of the oysters eaten on the half shell are alive when eaten, and suffer the most excruciating pain when they are eaten, and then follow this with a liberal sprinkling of salt, pepper, tobacco sauce and other condiments."

"I have heard it stated that oysters, being a very low manifestation of life, have no feeling. They are, I agree, of a very low order of existence. In spite of this, they are living animals. They eat, drink, and because of these two facts they must have feeling."

"Imagine some monstrous giant coming to the earth from Mars and thinking up some human beings very succulent morsels of food when eaten alive. How would we feel when he caught us up in his full of holes, covered us with about two pounds of salt and pepper, and while we were still kicking? Imagine the feeling! The poor oyster experiences this, only in a somewhat duller manner. These facts shall not deter me from eating oysters in the delicious half-shell habit, however."

Dr. Wiley's views on the oyster question are concurred in by several of Washington's leading hotel and restaurant

stewards. J. W. Mossburg, of the Cafe Florissant, says that oysters are not good unless eaten alive, and that being alive they must suffer the most unendurable pain when pricked with a fork and covered with the hottest of sauces.

May Deaden Pain.

"Even after oysters have been shocked and put into a pall of water they increase themselves one-third their original size by drinking the water in which they float. I honestly believe they suffer when eaten from the half shell. It is reasonable to suppose that any living animal suffers when mutilated during life."

"It seems very silly and factious to suggest a sauce which would not only increase the flavor of the oyster, but would deaden its pain, but I believe that such a thing would promote the humanitarian feeling of some non-vivants."

"It is a hard thing to tell whether the oyster really does suffer when eaten on half shell," said Gov. Burdett, head waiter at the New Willard.

"He is not very good unless he is eaten alive. The fact that he is alive is a strong suggestion that he